

July 13th, 2023

Mr. David Torbert Partner Schenkel Schultz Architecture 200 E. Robinson Street, Suite 300 Orlando, Florida 32801

RE: Palm Coast Fire Station #26 – Due

Diligence ZC 23013 DD

Mr. Torbert,

Please find the preliminary biological assessment (PBA) for the project area consisting of two (2) undeveloped parcels (±27.2 acres) located in Palm Coast, Florida (**Aerial Map**). The site is bordered by Seminole Woods Boulevard to the east, undeveloped lands to the north and west, and Airport Commerce Center Way to the south.

- Aerial Map, Ground-truthed Wetland Map, Soils Map, Habitat Map, Lidar Map, FEMA Flood Map

ZCA staff scientists conducted a site visit on June 29th, 2023, to evaluate the site for wetlands, surface waters, and the potential presence of protected species. The entirety of the site is undeveloped with forested upland and wetland areas (**Habitat Map**). Approximately 8.6 acres of wetlands were observed onsite (**Ground-truthed Wetland Map**).

The uplands onsite are classified as pine flatwood and consist of a canopy of slash pine (*Pinus ellioti*). The sub-canopy contains wax myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*) with a ground cover of saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*), bracken fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*), fetterbush (*Lyonia lucida*), blackberry (*Rubus* spp.), white tickseed (*Bidens alba*), cat briar (*Smilax spp.*), muscadine grape (*Vitis rotundifolia*), and reindeer moss (*Cladonia rangiferina*).

The wetland, classified as cypress – pine – cabbage palm, is approximately 8.6 acres and has a canopy consisting of slash pine, laurel oak (*Quercus laurifolia*), loblolly bay (*Gordonia lasianthus*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), and bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*). The sub-canopy consists of laurel oak and loblolly bay, with a ground cover of Virginia chain (*Woodwardia virginica*) and St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*).

Mr. David Torbert July 13, 2023 ZC 23013 Page 2 of 2

The onsite wetlands are jurisdictional to the state, regulated by St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) and any wetland impacts will require an Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) and wetland mitigation to offset wetland impacts. Additionally, the onsite wetlands may be federally protected, and permitting with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) under the State Section 404 Program may be required. An Individual Permit (IP), General Permit (GP), or No Permit Required (NPR) will be obtained from FDEP.

Offsite mitigation banking credits can be purchased from a Regionally Significant Mitigation Bank to offset any planned wetland impacts. Multiple mitigation banks service this basin and have credits available for purchase, including Fish Tail, Brick Road, and Tiger Bay Mitigation Bank.

The habitats on site were evaluated for the potential presence of protected species. The presence of gopher tortoises (*Gopherus polyphemus*) is possible within the uplands. No gopher tortoise burrows were observed during the site inspection. A 100% gopher tortoise survey by a Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Authorized Gopher Tortoise Agent will be required 90 days prior to construction. If any gopher tortoise burrows are observed onsite, additional gopher tortoise permitting and relocation may be required.

The Audubon Florida EagleWatch Nest Locator website was reviewed on July 13th, 2023 and the closest known bald eagle nest (NEST ID #FL006) is located 2.7 miles to the southeast. No eagle nests were observed on or near the site. Since no known eagles nest occur within 660 feet, development should not be constrained by the bald eagle.

No other listed species are anticipated to occur on this site.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact our office.

Sincerely,

ZEV COHEN & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Malloy Hatum

Mallory Tatum

Environmental Scientist



Date Saved: 8/3/2023 Created by: jdurant

225 Feet

Fire Station #26 Palm Coast, Florida





225 Feet

Fire Station #26 Palm Coast, Florida



Date Saved: 8/3/2023 Created by: jdurant

225 Feet

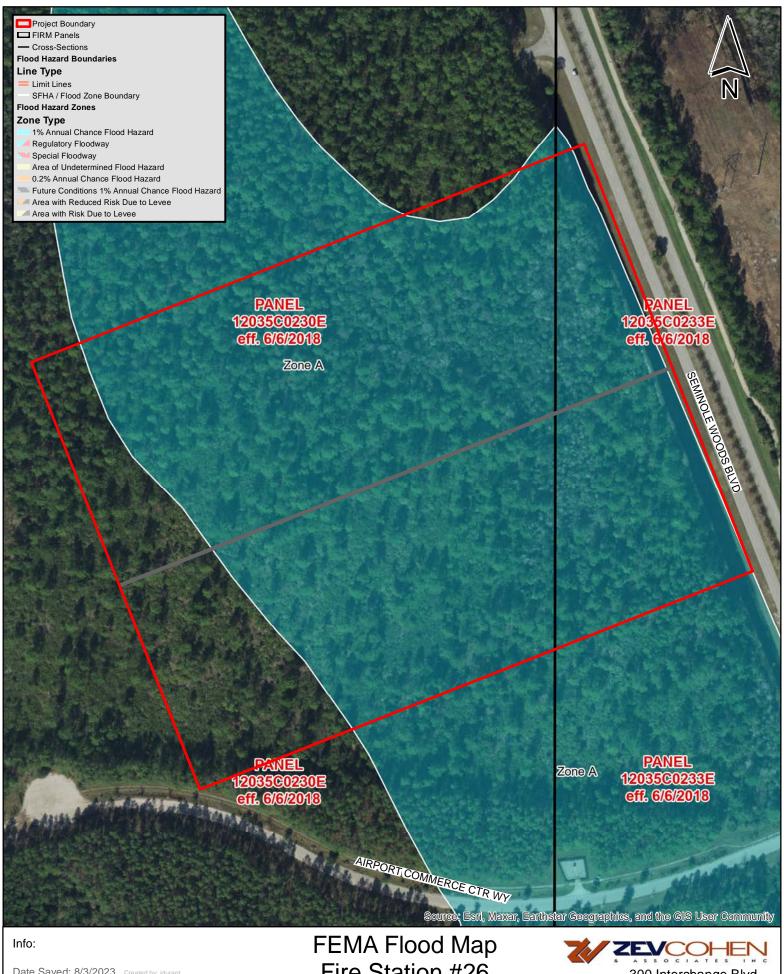
Fire Station #26 Palm Coast, Florida





225 Feet

Ormond Beach, FL 32174 ph 386-677-2482



Date Saved: 8/3/2023 Created by: jdurant

ROJECTS\2023\23013 - Palm Coast Fire Station #26\Flood Map.mxd

225 Feet 112.5

Fire Station #26 Palm Coast, Florida